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Columbus Moves into National Top 10 Cities for African Americans to “work, live and play” City #9 in Black Enterprise Magazine National Study

(Columbus, OH) Following a national study and survey by Black Enterprise Magazine, Columbus is being listed as the nation's 9th “Top City” for African Americans. This ranking, the study by the magazine since 2001, shows Columbus moving into the Top Ten for the first time, as Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit moved off the list.

“I’m proud to hear that another national study is finding out what we already knew - that Columbus has great residents, a good economy and a high quality of life in our neighborhoods,” said Mayor Michael B. Coleman. “No matter which neighborhood you live in, we can all be proud of Columbus, knowing that all of our families want the same things - good jobs, good schools, safe homes and a better future.”

Black Enterprise Magazine spent five weeks researching cities, comparing information from reader surveys and national statistical sources. Columbus was ranked with the lowest violent crime rate of any city in the top ten, third lowest medical costs, second lowest rate of segregation, third most spent per school child, and the shortest average commuting time for workers. The City also enjoys rankings in many other areas that are better than the national averages.

The 2004 survey by Black Enterprise Magazine will be available this week in the July issue, or on the Black Enterprise website (when posted) at:
www.blackenterprise.com

From the report: “A newcomer to the top 1 list, Columbus is set apart by its location. It is bucking the trend of population decline suffered by other Midwestern cities.... ‘We are a city where our best days are ahead of us, not behind us,’ says Mayor Michael B. Coleman, who, now in his fourth year, is not alone in his optimism. Respondents gave Columbus high marks for its low cost of living, housing prices, healthcare, and earnings potential.”